

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached two sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The attached two sheets, which include Figs. 1-3, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-3. In particular, Figs. 1, 2 and 3 have been amended to include larger descriptive text labels for the boxes.

Attachments: 2 replacement sheets

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

With the cancellation of claims 13 to 17, 19 to 21 and 27, claims 18 and 22 to 26 are pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this foregoing amendments and following remarks.

II. ALLOWED CLAIMS 18 AND 22-26

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 18 and 22-26 are allowed.

III. OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner objected to the drawings because in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 the descriptive text labels were not at least 1/8 inch in height. In this regard, Figs. 1, 2 and 3 have been amended to include larger descriptive text labels. No new matter has been added. Entry and approval of amended Figs. 1, 2 and 3 is respectfully requested. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 13-15 AND 19-21 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 13 to 15 and 19 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Cox et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,732,333, in view of Salinger, U.S. Patent No. 6,252,912, and further in view of Dent, U.S. Patent No. 5,262,734. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, claims 13 to 15 and 19 to 21 have been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection.

V. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 16 AND 17 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the Cox reference in view of the Salinger and Dent references, and in further view of Mojoli, U.S. Patent No. 4,615,040. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, claims 16 and 17 have been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection.

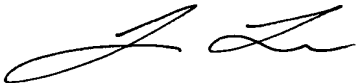
VI. REJECTION OF CLAIM 27 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the Cox reference in view of the Salinger and Dent references, and in further view of Brajal, U.S. Patent No. 5,598,436. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, claim 27 has been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is believed that the objections and rejections have been obviated. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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